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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Cornelis A.M.Jaspers :
Application No. 09/372,459 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: August 11, 1999 :
Attorney Docket No. PHN-17-061 :

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed December 13, 2006, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Any request for reconsideration of this decision must be submitted within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are permitted. The reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b)." This is **not** a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 704.

This application became abandoned as a result of petitioner's failure to take appropriate action in a timely manner after the decision of March 17, 2006 by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Therefore, the proceedings as to the rejected claims were terminated. See 37 CFR 1.197(b). This application became abandoned on May 18, 2006. See MPEP 1214.06.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by: (1) the required reply, unless previously filed; (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional; and (4) **any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required by 37 CFR 1.137(d)**. Where there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 was unintentional, the Director may require additional information. See MPEP 711.03(c)(II)(C) and (D). The instant petition lacks item (4).

A terminal disclaimer (and fee) is required for a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995, but before May 29, 2000, where the application became abandoned (1) during appeal, (2) during interference, or (3) while under a secrecy order. The reason being that utility and plant applications issuing on applications filed on or after June 8, 1995, but before May 29, 2000, are eligible for the patent term extension under former 35 U.S.C. 154(b) (as a result of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA)). See 35 U.S.C. 154(b) (1999); see also 37 CFR 1.701. If such an application is abandoned (1) during appeal, (2) during interference, or (3) while under a secrecy order, the patentee of a patent issuing from such an application is eligible for patent term extension for the entire period of abandonment. The requirement for a terminal disclaimer for these situations will make certain that any patent term extension obtained for the period of abandonment while the application is under appeal, interference, or a secrecy order will be dedicated to the public.

The terminal disclaimer and fee must be accompanied by a renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) (no additional petition fee is required) and addressed as follows:


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By hand: U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
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The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Correspondence regarding this decision may also be filed through the electronic filing system of the USPTO.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3218.


Frances Hicks
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions